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NOTES.

NOTES FROM SYRIA.

I. HITTITE RUINS.

In November, 1890, while going from Biredjik to Aleppo, about fifteen hours from Aleppo, after passing Zambûr and crossing the Sadjoûr very near where Hadjivali, on Kiepert's map of Turkey is situated, I saw on the right, a few minutes' ride from the road, an extensive, low ruin, so covered with basalt stones, large and small, that it resembled an immense Moslem graveyard.

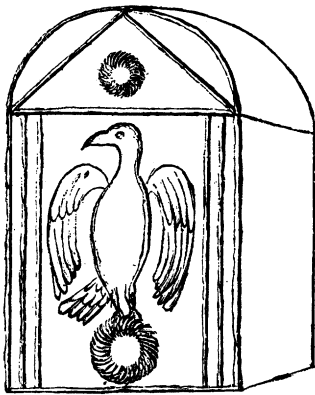


FIG. 8.

On examination I found a few graves, but in addition a large ruin. I did not have time to explore it, but the remains of workmanship upon the stones suggested that it must be a Hittite ruin of some importance, especially as Zambûr, the nearest village to it, has yielded some Hittite remains. The most prominent of the stones stood upright, partly buried in the ground, facing nearly south. It stood about four feet out of the ground, was over two feet wide and very nearly one foot and a half thick, rounded on the top and back, and bearing

the figure of an eagle standing upon a conventional wreath, and inclosed in lines, all in prominent relief. The village close by is called Khalooghlo, and is composed of about twenty Mohammedan families.

Observing fresh holes in the ground about halfway between the ruin and the village, I made some inquiries about them from the natives following me, and I was told that they were digging for hewn stones for the gateways of their houses. Several of these stones I saw which had been dragged halfway toward the village. I questioned whether that was not the city-wall, especially as it was some distance outside of the ruin. I looked for a mound but saw none. The illustration is from a drawing made at the time (*Figure 8*).

II. GREEK RUINS.

I also give from my note-book a short Greek inscription. It is engraved upon a single stone and is on the inside of the upper threshold of the entrance to an ancient ruined church, in a village called Rahaba. This village is about half an hour west of Tokat between Tokat and Turmanin on Kiepert's map, on the road from Aleppo to Hammam: there is another village beyond it called Hazreh about three-quarters of an hour east of Turmanin. Both of these villages are in the region of Djebel Siman: neither of them is on Kiepert's map, but both are built in the midst of ruins which evidently mark sites of some ancient Greek towns or cities. They seemed to me exceedingly interesting, especially Rahaba, where a magnificent Greek arch built of solid square stones is still standing in perfect condition and more than twenty feet in height. I believe that further investigation at these places would have resulted profitably. These villages have, perhaps, fifty houses each, the inhabitants being Mohammedans.

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DANIEL Z. NOORIAN.

THE BERLIN TABLET NO. 1813.

In the *Gazette archéologique* of 1888 (pl. 31), one of the Attic tablets with black figures, relating to funeral ceremonies, was published and explained by M. Collignon (*Plaques funéraires de terre cuite peintes trouvées à Athènes*) in the same way as by Furtwängler in his catalogue of the Berlin vases (No. 1813). The principal figure is a woman, sitting in the middle of the picture, distinguished from the other persons by a large and beautifully ornamented *himation*, which is drawn over her head. She inclines her head forward, and is just lifting her left hand up to her chin, as if meditating and mourning. In front of her, as well as behind her, there are sitting two other women on each side. They calmly look at the woman in the centre; the two close to her lift up one hand to express inward commotion. In the background three standing women are represented;